

# Oil and Gas Leasing Reform

A scenic landscape photograph of a desert canyon. In the center, a prominent, rounded rock formation (hoodoo) stands out. The foreground is filled with green juniper trees and large, weathered rock boulders. The middle ground shows a valley with patches of green grass and yellow-leaved trees. The background features rolling hills and distant mountains under a cloudy sky. The text "Oil and Gas Leasing Reform" is overlaid in white, centered in the upper half of the image.



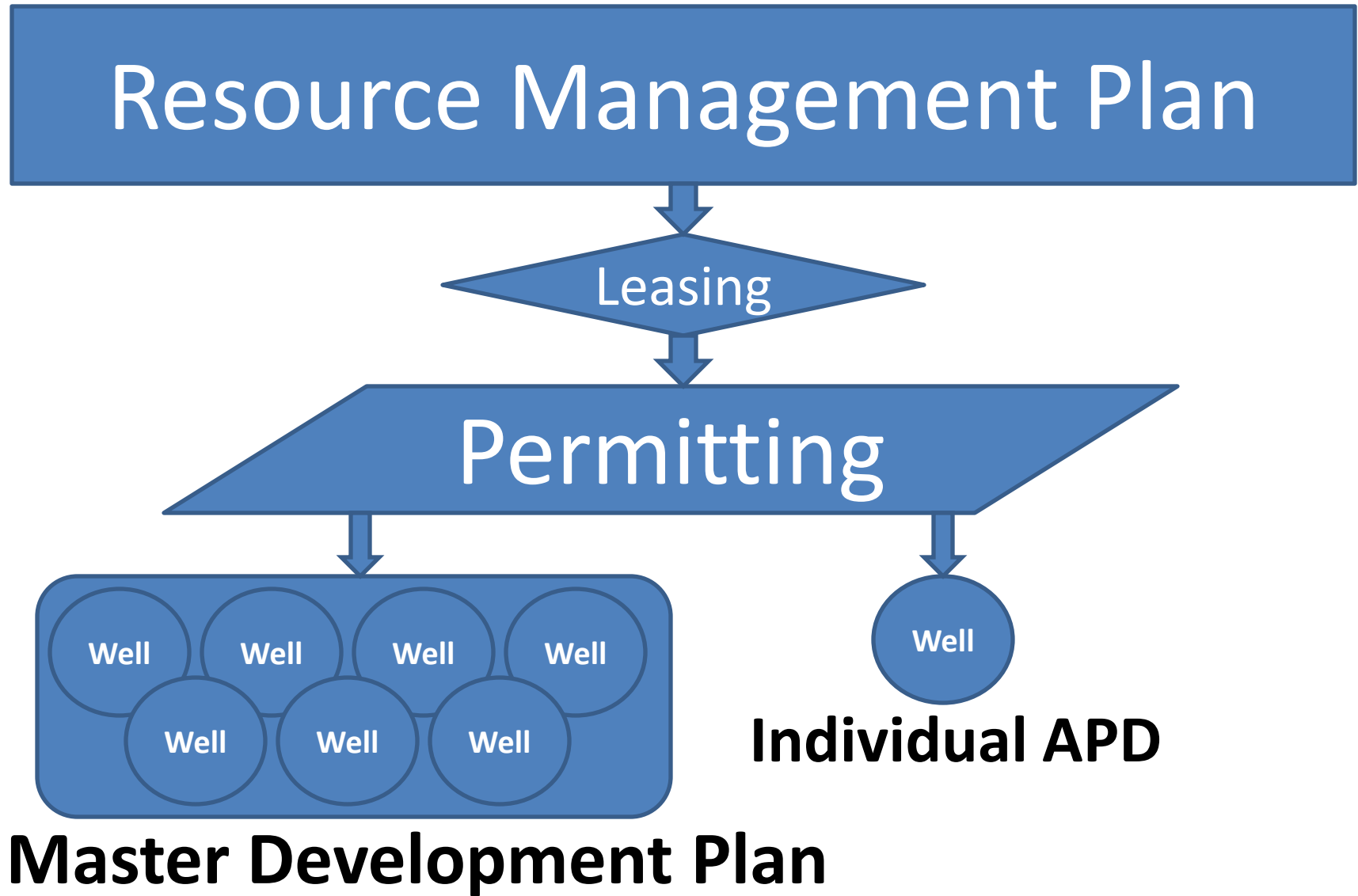
# Leasing Reform

## 3 Main Components

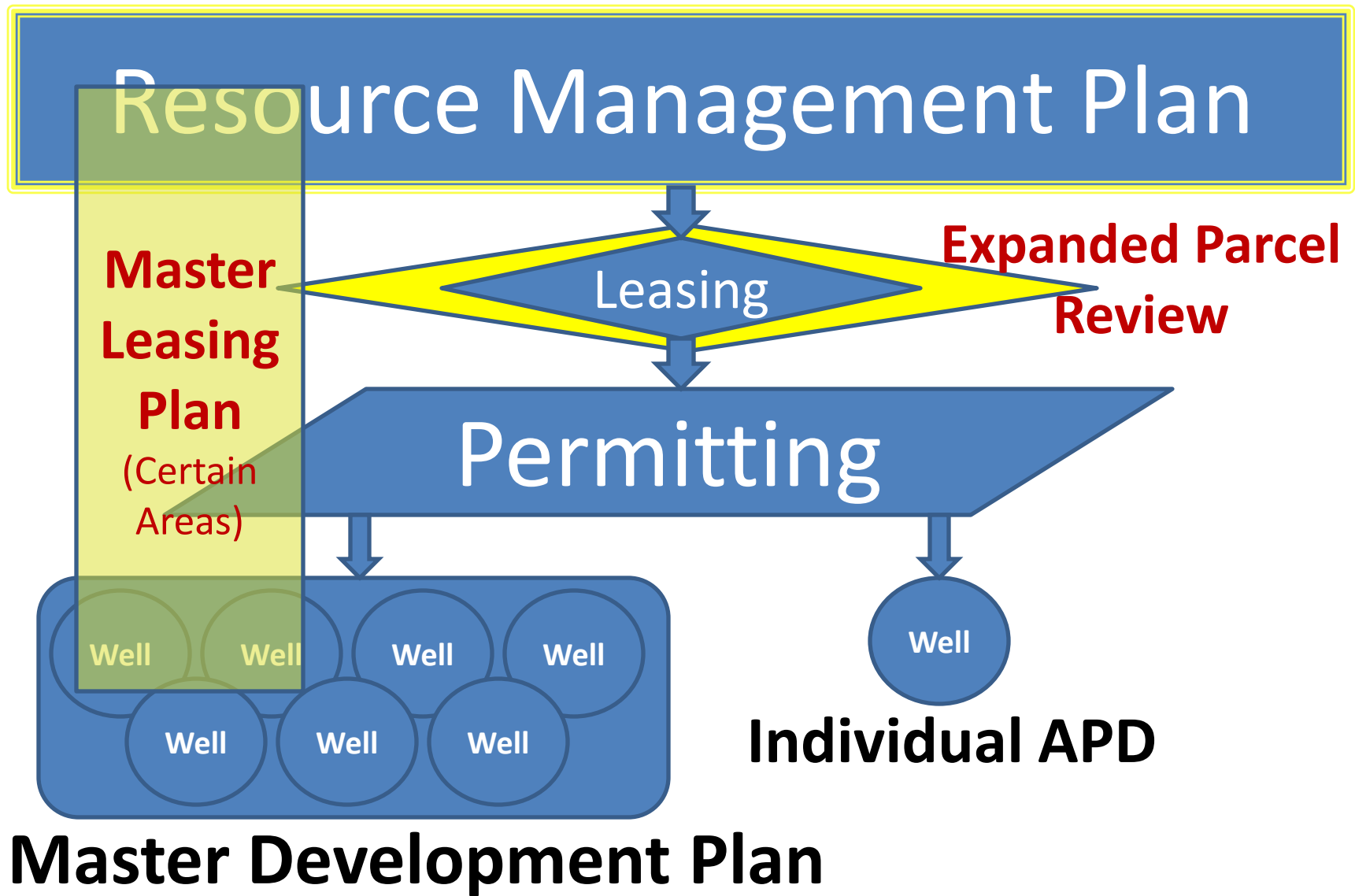
- I. Plan Adequacy Review and Lease Stipulation Consistency
- II. Master Leasing Plans
- III. Lease Sale Parcel Review Process



# Existing Process



# Leasing Reform Process





# Land Use Planning



# I. Land Use Planning

- Plan Adequacy Review & Updating
- Stipulation Consistency
  - ✓ State Office – Interdisciplinary Consistency Review Teams
- Adaptive Management
  - ✓ Exception, Waiver, and Modification (WO-IM-2008-032)
  - ✓ Monitoring (WO-IM-2009-224)



# Master Leasing Plans



## II. Master Leasing Plans

- A **stepped-down leasing analysis** –
- In this closer look, Field Offices:
  - ✓ Analyze in **greater detail** than the RMP the impacts of leasing and likely development.
  - ✓ Identify **key issues** such as protection of air quality, watersheds, wilderness, wildlife, and nearby land uses.
  - ✓ Identify appropriate **leasing and higher-level development mitigation measures** to protect the environment.



# Leasing Reform

## II. Master Leasing Plans

When the following criteria are met:

- Substantial unleased lands.
- Majority Federal mineral interest.
- Industry interest in leasing.
- Potential for oil and gas confirmed by a discovery.
- Likely resource conflicts if oil and gas development were to occur.

Interdisciplinary Team Review  
Site Visits  
NEPA

Lease Parcel  
Review





# III. Lease Parcel Review and Issuance Process

- **Rotation** of field office parcel reviews.
- **Interdisciplinary** Parcel Review Teams
- **Site visits**
- **Consider Program-Specific Guidance**
- Internal and External **Coordination**
- **Environmental Assessment (EA)**
  - **30 day public review** of the draft EA & unsigned FONSI
  - **The authorized officer at the state office** signs the decision when the lease is issued

# Leasing Reform Process

